

**Monthly E-Mail from RDML Phillips June 19, 2000**  
**Team LANTDIV:**

In the immortal words of Alice Cooper, "School's out for summer..." Congratulations to all those with family and friends graduating from high school and college. My second daughter ... Brooke ... graduates today with a Masters degree in Education from the Univ of Fla ... one more off the payrolls ... I wish!!!

It's nice to be back from CAPSTONE. It was a great experience that provided the global perspective on what's happening in DoD and other federal agencies. I'm glad to be "back in the saddle," but will still be on the road quite a bit over the next month or so. I just returned from a trip that included an EFD Leadership Council meeting in Charleston, a stop in Puerto Rico, and then a flight across "the pond" (better known as the Atlantic Ocean) to Italy to look at our massive recapitalization efforts in Sigonella, Naples and Aviano. In July, I will be taking some leave and then one final trip to check on our clients in London, Spain, and Bahrain before heading for life inside the Beltway.

Our primary command focus during the last month continued to be the work in GTMO. We turned over the second long-term detention camp May 27. CONCAP's remaining workers are constructing a "hardened" ward for the fleet hospital for weather protection in the event of a hurricane and to provide additional security for hospital personnel who are treating detainees. LANTDIV has accomplished great things at GTMO over the past six months and our client is very pleased. A lot of people sacrificed a great deal to complete these important projects. "Well Done" to everyone who played a role, even a minor one, in the successful completion of this urgent and highly visible effort. While this milestone presents an opportunity to stop and celebrate our success, there are still discussions with SOUTHCOM and the JTF for further work, so stay tuned.

We're gearing up for a Change of Command ceremony Aug. 9. RDML Mike Loose, the NAVFAC Vice Commander, and I will be switching jobs. I think he's getting the better end of the deal. He's a great guy and an outstanding officer who will continue to point the Atlantic Division in the right direction. I didn't say "lead," because I've learned during my tenure here that all that's necessary is to layout what's needed, turn you loose, and get out of the way!

This will not be a change of command for the Second Naval Construction Brigade (my other command) as in the past; both the Second and Third NCB's will be decommissioned and the First Naval Construction Division will be commissioned. The First NCD will be the new command for the Seabees, replacing the two brigades. The commander will be RADM Chuck Kubic, currently Pacific Division/3NCB Commander. This command will allow RADM Kubic to focus solely on Seabee issues and allow the commanders of LANTDIV and PACDIV to focus on their EFD's, fleet civil engineer matters and support to unified commands.

Leadership at two of our components will also change in the near future. CAPT Bob Raines will relieve CAPT Joe Zorica at EFA Northeast the end of June, and CAPT

Tom Calhoun will relieve CAPT Will Boudra at EFA Ches in July. Joe and Will have provided outstanding leadership during their tenure. Join me in wishing them all the best as they move on - Joe as he transitions to the civilian world after 26 years of service to our country and Will as he moves on to the OPNAV staff in DC.

I need to balance my remaining time to accomplish some “must do” items before the Change of Command in August and that presents a conflict with the LANTDIV Family Picnic on June 27. I hate to miss this event as it is a wonderful opportunity to get to interact with the many great people at LANTDIV. I encourage everyone to try to attend and enjoy the day. Thanks to the MWR committee for planning another great event and for the many volunteers who are stepping forward to help out.

### **FacTS**

I sent you all a recent email concerning FacTS, but it's important enough that I reiterate a few things here. FacTS, a NAVFAC-wide Facility Team Survey, will kick off next month. FacTs will replace all current surveys within NAVFAC. The survey has both Workforce and Client modules. The Workforce module has undergone testing with great success and will be distributed to the entire NAVFAC workforce this summer, in July, and annually thereafter. The Client module is still under development, will be tested at various locations, and is expected to be ready next year. The Workforce survey is right around the corner. Look for a web cast from the Chief soon discussing further this vital feedback mechanism. I encourage all of LANTDIV (civilian, military, and on-site contract personnel) to participate in this important process. While participation is voluntary, I'm asking each and every one of you to complete the survey. If I don't get your feedback - both what we're doing well and what needs to be improved - then I can't adjust course and make things better. My goal is to achieve a 100% response rate. And rest assured, the survey is completely confidential.

### **TRUEX**

In May, LANTDIV provided exercise support to Second Naval Construction Brigade (2NCB). “TRUEX” was the first formal exercise between 2NCB and LANTDIV that tested the Seabee Engineer Reconnaissance Team (SERT) concept. Acquisition of SIPRNET in FY-01 significantly improved LANTDIV's capacity to support forward deployed missions by expanding its classified communications capability. In the TRUEX exercise, a Seabee team deployed to a CONUS field location, took pictures and measurements of a bridge, and sent data back to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Naval Construction Regiment at Little Creek via simulated encrypted tactical data transfer. That data was passed to LANTDIV via SIPRNET. An in-house structural engineering team provided outstanding real-time analysis of the situation and sent questions back to the team to gain further information required for complete structural analysis, which the Seabees subsequently provided. A good example of the NAVFAC team working together. Something we'll see more of in the future.

### **Waterfront Athletic Complex**

Naval Station Norfolk held a ribbon cutting May 28 for this LANTDIV-designed and managed project. Guests included Congressman Schrock and Ex-Congressman Pickett, along with the Regional Commander, the Regional PM for Support Services, and Naval Station CO, all of whom had good things to say about the LANTDIV/ROICC/Contractor team. Good coverage in the local media and the customer is very pleased. A hearty “well done” everyone involved.

Please be safe as you enjoy the summer. Thanks for your continued superb support to our clients. Keep charging!

**Warm regards. R/Bob**